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Image RCE \$

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Address to:

Mail Stop RCE
HON. COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number:
09/581,878

Accepted Date:
September 11, 2003

First Named Inventor:
Tadahiro OHMI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner Name:
Luz L. Alejandro Mulero

Attorney Docket Number:
FUK-71



Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

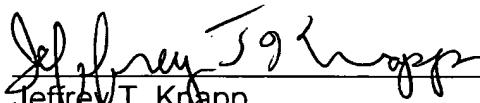
- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on June 2, 2003 and resubmitted via facsimile on October 16, 2003 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. Other _____
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required).
- b. Other _____

3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 501157
- i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. Other _____
- b. Check in the amount of \$385.00 enclosed Check No. 7568
- c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey T. Knapp
Registration No. 45,384

RJK/jrw10

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING NUMBER EL161757539US

Date of Deposit: December 19, 2003.

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, 2011 South Clark Place, Customer Window, Mail Stop RCE, Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03, Arlington, VA 22202.

Jeffrey T. Knapp, Registration No. 45,384
(Typed Name of Person Mailing Paper of Fee)



(Signature of Person Mailing Paper of Fee)